8.1. OPEN SPACE AND LANDSCAPE STANDARDS

- **A. Purpose.** This Section provides design standards to ensure that proposed development is consistent with the City's goals for open space distribution, pyhsical character and quality.
- **B.** Applicability. As identified in the following standards, open space and landscape shall be designed in compliance with the applicable general requirements in Section 8.2 and all applicable requirements of the Downtown Code.
 - Proposed buildings within the Downtown Code boundaries shall comply with the applicable requirements of the zoning district and overlay identified for the property in Figure 2.
- **C. Open Space Required.** Each application that involves at least 4 acres, except in the SD G1, SD G2, and SD A zoning districts, shall be required to provide a minimum of five percent of the project area as open space. The required open space shall be designed and constructed in compliance with the applicable requirements of Section 8.0.
- D. Allowed Open Space Types by Zoning District. Each proposed open space or existing open space to be modified shall be designed as one of the open space types allowed for the zoning district applicable to the site as identified in Table 8A. The Community Garden / Playground open space type is allowed in all zoning districts and as such, may be added to any allowed open space type subject to the applicable requirements.
- E. Design Objectives. Each open space shall be designed to:
 - 1. Provide community gathering space within the general area identified in Figure 2;
 - 2. Support the intended physical context as identified in the DNCP or FCSP as applicable;
 - 3. Relate in size and scope of activity to the block(s) that the open space enfronts.

8.2 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR OPEN SPACES

The following requirements apply to all open spaces subject to the Downtown Code. Standards listed under each open space type supple ment or supersede those identified in this section.

A. Site Standards.

All open spaces shall be designed per the applicable lot width and depth standards to ensure that new and modified buildings and the areas between them are built to the scale and character of surrounding buildings as follows:

- 1. New or modified open spaces shall front a street (public or private) that is in compliance with the standards in Section 1 for the applicable building type.
- 2. New or modified open spaces may contain buildings as allowed by the applicable zoning district.
- 3. Civic building(s) are allowed subject to all applicable requirements of the Downtown Code except Section 5.0.

B. Pedestrian Access Standards.

- 1. Pedestrian access to open spaces must be provided directly from the adjacent street(s) in compliance with all applicable ADA requirements.
- 2. Open spaces may be raised from the adjacent sidewalk up to a maximum of 4 feet in order to provide maximum visiblity into the open space and to maintain visual connection with the pedestrian.
- 3. Retaining walls shall comply with Section 10.2B.7 in addition to the requirements of the California Building Code.

C. Vehicle and Service Access Standards.

- 1. On-street parking shall be allowed along adjacent streets in compliance with Section 9.0 'Block and Street Standards'.
- 2. Open spaces shall provide and place parking (on-site and/or shared off-site) as required by Section D of the applicable zoning district development standards.
- 3. For corner sites without alley access, parking and service areas are accessed from the side street nearest the rear property line.
- 4. Services (utility access, above-ground equipment and trash enclosures) shall be accessed through the alley when an alley is present. When an alley is not present, services shall be located toward the rear of the site and contained within decorative enclosures or structures.

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA | PUBLIC DRAFT 1 JUNE, 2011

ALLOWED OPEN SPACE TYPES

TABLE 8

		Zoning District														
Туре	CBD 1	CBD 2	CC	СТ	CA/ SS/ SVN	TC	NC	CG	NG	NGP	NGR	NE	SDG1	SDG2	SDA	SD H
A. Plaza	See Table 8A	See Table 8A	Х	X	X	Х	X	X	Х	Х	X	See Table 8A				
B. Square	See Table 8B	See Table 8B	See Table 8B	See Table 8B	X	Х	X	X	Х	Х	X	See Table 8B				
C. Green	X	X	See Table 8C	X	X	See Table 8C	X	Х	Х	See Table 8C						
D. Park	X	X	Х	X	X	X	Х	X	See Table 8D	See Table 8D	See Table 8D	See Table 8D	X	Х	Х	X
E. Pocket Park	Х	Х	X	See Table 8E	See Table 8E	See Table 8E	See Table 8E	See Table 8E	See Table 8E	See Table 8E	See Table 8E	X	See Table 8E	See Table 8E	See Table 8E	See Table 8E
F. Greenway	Х	Х	Х	See Table 8F	X	X	X	X	See Table 8F	Х						

KEY TO TABLE 8

X Open Space Type not allowed in Zoning District

See Table 8C Open Space Type allowed in Zoning District. See reference for requirements.

Community Garden and/or Playground may be added within any allowed open space type













A. Plaza

B. Square

C. Green

D. Park

E. Pocket Park

F. Greenway

D. Frontage Standards.

All lot lines bordering a street (public or private) are subject to frontage standards in Section 6.0 as follows:

- 1. Building facades shall be designed in compliance with the requirements for front and side street facades in Section A.3 of the applicable zoning district development standards. Entrance doors, and public rooms shall be oriented toward the street or be visually prominent from the street through an entry within the open space.
- 2. Service rooms shall be oriented away from public view and away from the street when possible.

E. Sustainable Stormwater Standards

- 1. Each open space and its associated building(s) shall comply with the applicable City requirements related to stormwater.
- 2. Stormwater shall be collected and reused to the extent possible, as determined by the DRM Director or designee through any of the following as applicable to the site and its context:
 - i. Rain gardens
 - ii. Pervious paving systems
 - iii. Flow-through or infiltration planters
 - iv. Hollywood driveways
 - v. Disconnected downspouts
 - vi. Rain barrels
 - vii. Cisterns

8.3 REQUIRED FINDINGS FOR OPEN SPACE

Each application involving Section 8.0 shall require consistency with the following findings in order to be approved:

- 1. The application is in conformance with the applicable requirements of Table 8 and;
- 2. The application is in conformance with the intent of the zoning district in which the property is located;
- 3. As applicable, the application is in conformance with Sections A 'Building Placement', B 'Adjacency and Height' and, C 'Encroachment' of the applicable zoning district standards;
- 4. The proposed design does not disrupt or detract from the general intended pattern for the subject block face, the immediately adjacent block faces, and the block face immediately across from the property's primary frontage.

	COMMUNITY GARDEN	TABLE 8A	TABLE 8B
Open Space Type	COMMONITI GARDEN	IADLE OA	IADLE OD
	PLAYGROUND	PLAZA	SQUARE
Illustrative Plan Diagram	not applicable		
E xamples of			
Intended Physical Character Requirements			
A. Area (min - max)		0.40 - 1.00 acres	0.10 - 1.00 acres
B. Frontage (min)		3 streets	1 street
C. Access		from adjacent sidewalk by accessible path	from adjacent sidewalk by accessible path
D. Parking On-Site	_	not allowed	not allowed
Off-Street		parallel or diagonal	parallel or diagonal
E. Landscape			
Primary Surface	-	lawns	pavement
Tree placement	The Community Garden / Playground type to occur within an allowed	formally arranged	formally arranged
Tree Species	open space type per the applicable requirements for the type.	Per Table 8G	Per Table 8G
F. Hardscape Materials		context responsive, more elaborate for commercial activity (brick, stone, concrete) vs. residential activity (decomposed granite)	context responsive, more elaborate for commercial activity (brick, stone, concrete) vs. residential activity (decomposed granite)
G. Buildings Allowed		shade structures, kiosks, restrooms per zoning district	shade structures, kiosks, restrooms per zoning district
H. Furniture Allowed		benches, tables, drinking fountains	benches, tables, drinking fountains
I. Programming/Uses		Per Table 3 for zoning district	Per Table 3 for zoning district

TABLE 8C	TABLE 8D	TABLE 8E	TABLE 8F
GREEN	PARK	POCKET PARK	GREENWAY
0.30 - 2.00 acres	0.30 - 5.00 acres	0.10 - 0.50 acres	0.30 - unlimited acres
2 streets	2 streets	1 street	2 streets or 1 street and a waterway
from adjacent sidewalk by accessible path	from adjacent sidewalk by accessible path	from adjacent sidewalk by accessible path	from adjacent sidewalk by accessible path
not allowed	not allowed	not allowed	max 50 space parking lot(s)
parallel	parallel	parallel or diagonal	parallel or diagonal
unobstructed lawns	lawns	lawns	lawns
naturalistically arranged	naturalistically arranged	naturalistically arranged	naturalistically arranged
Per Table 8G	Per Table 8G	Per Table 8G	Per Table 8G
minimal and used for access	minimal and used for access	minimal and used for access	minimal and used for access
shade structures, kiosks, restrooms, playground equipment per zoning district	shade structures, kiosks, restrooms, playground equipment, recreational courts (basketball, tennis, etc.) per zoning district	shade structures, kiosks, restrooms, playground equipment, recreational courts (basketball, tennis, etc.) per zoning district	shade structures, kiosks, restrooms, playground equipment per zoning district
benches, tables, drinking fountains	benches, tables, drinking fountains	benches, tables, drinking fountains	benches, tables, drinking fountains
Per Table 3 for zoning district	Per Table 3 for zoning district	Per Table 3 for zoning district	Per Table 3 for zoning district

8.5. LANDSCAPE STANDARDS

- **A. Purpose.** This Section provides design standards to ensure that proposed development is consistent with the City's goals for landscaping, pyhsical character and quality.
- **B. Applicability.** As identified in the following standards, landscape shall be designed in compliance with the applicable general requirements in Section 8.6 and all applicable requirements of the Downtown Code.
 - Proposed buildings and open spaces within the Downtown Code boundaries shall comply with the applicable requirements of the zoning district and overlay identified for the property in Figure 2.
- **C.** Landscape Required. Each application that involves a new building or open space or existing building or open space to be modified sahll comply with the applicable requirements of Section 8.0. The required open space shall be designed and constructed in compliance with the applicable requirements of Section 8.0.
- **D.** Landscape Requirements by Zoning District. Each proposed lot and building or existing lot and building to be modified shall be designed per the requirements of Table 8G.
- E. Design Objectives. Landscaped areas shall be designed to:
 - Promote the aesthetic and environmental values of the community by generating and maintaining landscaping that does not impair the attractiveness of the City as a place to live, work, and shop;
 - Support the intended physical context as identified in the DNCP or FCSP as applicable;
 - 3. Relate in size and scale of plant materials with adjacent plant materials and the intended physical character.

8.6 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR LANDSCAPE

The following requirements apply to all landscape areas subject to the Downtown Code.

A. Site Standards.

1. All open space and building setbacks shall be landscaped per the requirements of Table 8G.

Landscapes shall preserve and promote the aesthetic character and environmental quality of Fresno in the following ways:

- 1. The landscape should define, unify and enhance the public realm.
 - a. Street trees shall be provided to define the street and identify it as a safe environment for automobiles, pedestrians, and cyclists as well as to add beauty and shade to the street. The selection of species shall be based upon height, canopy diameter, disease resistance, and transparency.
- 2. The landscape shall be designed to be sensitive to the character, climate, and soils of Fresno. Plant materials shall be indigenous to the region or similar in character and habitat to indigenous materials. Plant species shall be selected that reduce the need for supplemental irrigation water.
 - a. Indigenous trees such as Oak, Sycamore, and Cottonwood, shall be incoroporated to provide sustainable habitat and reinforce the existing natural aesthetic of the open space framework. Trees shall be tolerant of stress created during periods of drought, and be receptive to the use of ecologically-friendly integrated pest management.
 - Indigenous plants or drought-tolerant species from the Mediterranean and other arid regions shall be used in place of plants that do not originate from such regions.
- 3. The landscape shall contribute to mitigating environmental degradation resulting from storm water runoff.
 - a. Methods that reduce runoff and improve water quality shall be implemented in landscape design.

B. Lot Standards.

1. Yard landscapes. Plantings in yard areas fronting on streets shall be appropriate to the scale, orientation and purpose of the yard. All trees for front yards when provided shall be a minimum of 24 inch box (1" - 1.75" caliper). Appropriate plant materials and designs for specific frontage yard types are as follows:

a. Front yards.

- i. Front yards shall be planted and maintained from the back of sidewalk to a facade or garden wall.
- ii. At facades, low shrubs and/or ground cover may be planted against the facade.
- iii. At garden walls, low shrubs and wall vines or tall shrubs alone shall be planted against the wall.
- iv. Lawn can be used in front yard applications, but shall be limited to no more than sixty percent of the entire front yard area
- v. Side yards on corners are considered front yards and subject to the same requirements as identified in this section.

b. Other yards.

- i. Rear yards may have multiple trees.
- ii. Side yards need not be landscaped, except when adajcent to public space.
- iii. If visible from the public realm, (i.e., the sidewalk or street), rear and side yards shall be landscaped and maintained.

C. Streetscape Standards.

- 1. Street trees shall be consistent with, or similar to, species identified in Table 8G.
- 2. Large trees with arching canopies shall be planted as rows in continuous parkway strips or individual tree wells parallel to the adjacent curb on both sides of the street and in street medians as specified in Section 9.0 for each street type.
- 3. Street tree spacing shall be as specified in Section 9.0 but no less than 25 feet and no more than 45 feet on center along block frontages with adjustments in spacing for driveways and bus turounouts. Consistency in tree spacing and species shall be used to create strong spatial definition for the streetscape.
- 4. Runoff from sidewalks shall be conveyed to planted parkways. To the extent possible, overflow from parkways and runoff from the road may be directed into pervious paving in parallel parking areas in order promote infiltration into the ground.

D. Parking Facility Standards.

Parking areas shall be landscaped in compliance with the following requirements.

- 1. Amount of Landscaping. Each building on a site with a parking lot shared by multiple buildings shall provide landscaping within and/or around the parking area at a minimum ratio of 10 percent of the gross area of the parking lot. A minimum of one shade tree shall be provided for each five parking spaces or trees provided to achieve 50% canopy coverage of paved area at maturity, whichever is greater.
- **2. Location of Landscaping.** Landscaping shall be evenly dispersed throughout each parking area. Orchard-style planting (placement of trees in uniformly-spaced rows) is required for parking areas with more than 20 parking spaces.

8.7 REQUIRED FINDINGS FOR LANDSCAPE

Each application involving Section 8.0 shall require consistency with the following findings in order to be approved:

- 1. The application is in conformance with the applicable requirements of Table 8;
- 2. The application is in conformance with the intent of the zoning district in which the property is located;
- 3. The application is in conformance with the applicable requirements of Table 8G and:
- 4. The proposed design does not disrupt or detract from the general intended pattern for the subject block face, the immediately adjacent block faces, and the block face immediately across from the property's primary frontage.

TABLE 8G PLANT MATERIAL AND TREE STANDARDS

Туре	Botanical Name	Common Name
A. Parking Lot Trees/ Street Trees	Fraxinus angustifolia 'Raywood' Fraxinus velutina 'Arizona' Gleditsia triacanthos 'Shademaster' Koelreuteria paniculata Magnolia grandiflora Pistacia chinensis Platanus acerfolia Platanus occidentalis Pyrus calleryana var. Aristocrat Pyrus calleryana var. Bradford Quercus ilex Sophora japonica var. Regent Ulmus pumila Zelkova serrata	Raywood Ash Arizona Ash Honeylocust Golden Rain Tree Southern Magnolia Chinese Pistache London Plane Tree American Sycamore Aristocrat Pear Bradford Pear Holly Oak Japanese Pagoda Tree Siberian Elm Sawleaf Zelkova
B. Accent Trees/Street Trees	Acer palmatum Albizia julibrissin Arbutus unedo Betula pendula Catalpa speciosa Cedrus atlantica 'Glauca' Cedrus deodara Cercis canadensis 'Forest Pansy' Chilopsis linearis Fremontodendron 'California Glory' Lagerstroemia indica Pinus halepensis Quercus agrifolia Quercus douglasii Quercus lobata Umbellularia californica Vitex agnus-castus	Japanese Maple Silk Tree Strawberry Tree White Birch Western Catalpa Blue Atlas Cedar Deodar Cedar Forest Pansy Redbud Desert Willow Flannel Bush Crape Myrtle Allepo Pine Coast Live Oak Blue Oak Valley Oak California Bay Chaste Tree
C. General Trees/Street Trees	Acacia baileyana Acer sp. Betula nigra Eriobotrya japonica Heteromeles arbutifolia Liquidambar styraciflua Magnolia grandiflora 'Majestic Beal Magnolia grandiflora 'St. Mary' Pinus canariensis Pinus pinea Populus nigra 'Italica' Prunus cerasifera Punica granatum Quercus agrifolia Quercus douglasii Quercus kelloggii Quercus wislizenii Rhus lanceolata Robinia ambigua 'Idahoensis' Salix babylonica Sambucus mexicana Sequoia sempervirens	Fearnleaf Acacia Maple River Birch Loquat Toyon Sweet Gum uty Canary Island Pine Italian Stone Pine Lombardy Poplar Plum Tree Pomegranate Coast Live Oak Scarlet Oak Blue Oak California Black Oak Northern Red Oak Interior Live Oak Flameleaf Sumac Idaho Locust Weeping Willow Blue Elderberry Coast Redwood

Туре	Botanical Name	Common Name
D. Tall Shrubs	Arctostaphylos 'Lester Rowntree' Arctostaphylos manzanita Buddleja davidii Ceanothus 'Frosty Blue' Ceanothus 'Julia Phelps' Ceanothus 'Sierra Snow' Cercis occidentalis Cercocarpus betuloides Cotinus coggygria Cotoneaster franchetii Cotoneaster salicifolius Dodonaea viscosa 'Purpurea' Elaeagnus multiflora Elaeagnus pungens Ilex altaclarensis 'Wilsonii' Leucophyllum frutescens Mahonia 'Golden Abundance' Nolina bigelovii Pyracantha coccinea Rhamnus californica Ribes sanguineum glutinosum Romneya coulteri	Lester Rowntree Manzanita Common Manzanita Common Butterfly Bush Frosty Blue Wild Lilac Julia Phelps Ceanothus Sierra Snow California Lilac Western Redbud Mountain Mahogany Smoke Tree Franchet Cotoneaster Red Clusterberry Cotoneaster Willowleaf Cotoneaster Purple Leafed Hopseed Bush Elaeagnus Silver Berry Wilson Altaclara Holly Texas Ranger Mahonia Desert Nolina Pyracantha Coffeeberry Pink Flowering Currant Matilija Poppy
E. Low Shrubs	Arctostaphylos hookeri Artemisia 'Powis Castle' Baccharis pilularis 'Twin Peaks #2' Berberis thunbergii 'Rosy Glow' Ceanothus griseus 'Santa Ana' Cistus hybridus Cistus x purpureus Fremontodendron 'Ken Taylor' Juniperus chinensis 'Mint Julep' Leucophyllum frutescens 'Rain Cloud Mahonia aquifolium Ribes aureum Rosmarinus officinalis Rosmarinus officinalis 'Irene' Rosmarinus officinalis 'Irene' Rosmarinus officinalis 'Majorica Pink Yucca filamentosa 'Golden Sword'	Oregon Grape Golden Currant Rosemary Irene Rosemary

PLANT MATERIAL AND TREE STANDARDS TABLE 8G

Туре	Botanical Name	Common Name
F. Hedge Shrubs	Arctostaphylos densiflora 'Howard McMinn' Elaeagnus pungens Feijoa sellowiana Ilex cornuta 'Burfordii' Laurus nobilis Ligustrum lucidum Mahonia aquifolium Prunus caroliniana 'Compacta' Rosmarinus officinalis 'Tuscan Blue' Rosemary	Howard McMinn Manzanita Silver Berry Pineapple Guava Burford Chinese Holly Sweet Bay Glossy Privet Oregon Grape Dwarf Carolina Laurel Cherry Tuscan Blue Upright
G. Ground Covers	Achillea millefolium Ajuga reptans Arctostaphylos 'Emerald Carpet' Arctostaphylos uva-ursi Baccharis pilularis 'Pigeon Point' Berberis thunbergii 'Crimson Pygmy' Bergenia cordifolia Ceanothus gloriosus Ceanothus griseus horizontalis Cotoneaster horizontalis Fremontodendron 'El Dorado Gold' Liriope muscari 'Variegata' Mahonia repens Pyracantha 'Santa Cruz' Rosmarinus officinalis 'Prostratus' Santolina chamaecyparissus Sarcococca hookeriana humilis Trachelospermum asiaticum Verbena rigida Vinca major Vinca minor Zauschneria californica	Common Yarrow Carpet Bugle Manzanita Emerald Carpet Manzanita Coyote Bush Little Gem Saxifraga Point Reyes Creeper Carmel Creeper Rock Cotoneaster Dwarf El Dorado Gold Fremontia Variegated Blue Lilyturf Creeping Mahonia Santa Cruz Firethorn Dwarf Rosemary Lavender Cotton Small Hookeri Yellow Star Jasmine Prairie Verbena Periwinkle Periwinkle California Fuchsia
H. Grasses	Festuca 'Siskyou Blue' Helictotrichon sempervirens Leymus condensatus 'Canyon Prince Muhlenbergia capillaris Regal Mist' Muhlenbergia lindheimeri Autumn Muhly Muhlenbergia rigens Stipa tenuissima	™ Pink Muhly

Туре	Botanical Name	Common Name			
I. Vines	Lonicera japonica 'Halliana' Parthenocissus quinquefolia Parthenocissus tricuspidata Rosa banksiae 'Alba Plena' Vitis californica Wisteria floribunda	Halls Japanese Honeysuckle Virginia Creeper Boston Ivy White Lady Banks' Rose California Wild Grape Japanese Wisteria			
KEY TO TABLE	E 8G				
Lonicera japonica 'Halliana' Plant / Tree allowed as identified.					
If the plant / tree type is not listed. It is not specifically allowed but may be allowable subject to review and approval of the DRM Director or designee that the the unlisted plant/tree type is similar to a listed type.					